# TIPPECANOE COUNTY COUNCIL TIPPECANOE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS JOINT MEETING FEBRUARY 8, 2005

The Tippecanoe County Council Tippecanoe County Commissioners held a joint meeting on Tuesday, February 8, 2005 at 12:10 P.M. in the Tippecanoe Room in the County Office Building. Council members present were: President Kathy Vernon, Vice President Ronald L. Fruitt, David S. Byers, Jeffrey A. Kemper, Betty J. Michael, Thomas P. Murtaugh, and Kevin L. Underwood. Commissioners present were: President KD Benson, Vice President John L. Knochel, and Member Ruth E Shedd. Others present were: Auditor Robert A. Plantenga, Commissioners' Assistant Jennifer Weston, Attorney David W. Luhman, and Secretary Pauline E. Rohr.

Greg Guerrettaz, President of Financial Solutions and Tippecanoe County's Financial Consultant, was also present.

Mission Statement: March 12, 2002

Mr. Guerrettaz asked Councilmembers and Commissioners to review the County's Mission Statement and forward any suggested changes to Mrs. Weston. This should be done prior to his next scheduled meeting.

#### Committees

### Revenue

- Mr. Guerrettaz suggested monthly meetings of the Revenue Committee at least from January through July.
- Keep up with legislative issues and propose revenue generating issues for the County to present to our legislators.
- It is time to re-bid Cash Management.
- Examine departmental fees annually.

Councilmember Kemper suggested contacting the AIC (Association of Indiana Counties) regarding fees to pursue with our legislators.

## Efficiency

Mrs. Weston reported priorities set by this committee are joint purchasing with the City of Lafayette and examining department processes to prevent duplication.

Mr. Guerrettaz suggested:

- Study manpower numbers and the level of technology employed. Departments may be able to function with fewer employees.
- Employ an outside firm to conduct a study of departments and make recommendations regarding the number of personnel.

# Personnel Needs

Give higher priority to new positions that can be funded outside the General Fund by the department.

# <u>Services</u>

President Vernon asked if the County is providing services it doesn't have to at the expense of services it is required to provide.

Mr. Guerrettaz suggested forming a committee with high level representation to:

- Study the services the County is providing and determine if some can be eliminated.
- Determine future services the County wants to provide.

County Surveyor Steve Murray said some departments have bought into GIS but others have not. He thinks this is the best tool the County has provided. He suggested getting a GIS update on what is offered and which departments are using it.

Commissioner Knochel said the County's department heads are already a Services' Committee that meets monthly. He said they can list their department's services and prioritize them.

Attorney Luhman suggested examining services to determine if the allotted turn-around time is appropriate.

# Capital Projects

# Juvenile Justice Center

Current Institutional Care costs in the 2005 General Fund Budget include \$125,000 in the County Council's Budget to pay prior years' bills and approximately \$1.1 million in Superior Court III's Budget to pay current bills. Since the annual operating costs for a juvenile facility have been estimated at \$2 million, the County is approximately \$900,000 short of being able to fund the operating expenses. Mr. Guerrettaz concluded that the County will be able to secure funding to build the facility but not to operate it.

- Determine how to pay for the facility.
- Solidify the numbers: building cost and operational costs.

# Storm Water

- Current legislation now gives the County the authority to set a fee.
- The EDIT Fund will be drained if it continues as the main funding source.

## 3 Year Cash Flow Analysis

## EDIT Fund 301

<u>Uncommitted Balance</u> 2005 2006 (\$2 mil cushion) 72,158.89 1,301,075.65 122,449.64

Cum Cap Fund 010

<u>Uncommitted Balance</u> 2005 2006 2007 (500,000 cushion) 2,312,222.82 2,383,571.11 2,371,051.51

## 2005 Projected Miscellaneous Revenue

Auditor Plantenga reported that, due to adjustments to the approved 2005 Budget by the DLGF (Department Local Government Finance), that lowered the Projected 2005 Miscellaneous Revenue to \$14,543,744 and projected Property Tax collections adjusted to a realistic 99%, the Beginning Net Balance was lowered to \$237,646.73. Following appropriations in January and paying miscellaneous expenditures, the amount of uncommitted funds is lowered to \$186,231.98.

## Homework for Tuesday, March 8, 2005 Meeting at 11:30 A.M.

- Review Mission Statement.
- Comments on Committees.
- Comments on priority levels of Capital projects.

Surveyor Murray will present a Storm Water Report.

## **Grant Impact Statement**

Councilmember Fruitt commented on the printout of active grants for 2004/2005 distributed by Commissioners' Assistant Jennifer Weston at the January 11<sup>th</sup> meeting. He said he was surprised to learn that the County is expected to continue funding for some personnel after the grant expires. Mr. Guerrettaz advised asking for a Grant Impact Statement at the time of the application to avoid those surprises.

## COMMISSIONERS ADJOURNED: 1:30 P.M.

• Commissioner Knochel moved to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Shedd; motion carried.

COUNCIL RECESSED: 1:30 P.M.

TIPPECANOE COUNTY COUNCIL

Kathy Vernon President

Ronald L. Fruitt, Vice President

David S. Byers

Robert A. Plantenga, Auditor

Jenngy, A. Kemper

Betty J. Michael

Thomas P. Murtaugh

Kevin L. Underwood